



CARLTON COUNTY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA
Carlton County Transportation Building, County Board Room
February 1, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda. **Motion by Bodie, second by Proulx. Approved.**
3. Approve the September 7, 2021 meeting minutes. **Motion by Brenner, second by Peterson. Approved**
4. COVID-19 Incident Command update (Public Health). Jenny Barta reports that COVID numbers are still high, but trending down in a number of parts of the Twin Cities. Omicron is the strain that is responsible for 99% of currently reported infections. Ms. Barta provides a review of the current recommendations for those who have tested positive or been exposed. Update provided regarding booster vaccine clinics. Joanne Erspamer provides an update on efforts in the community to provide masks as well as other community related initiatives. Hope to start working recovery, with the receipt of funding from the federal and state governments that needs to be used by the end of 2023. Mental health will be a focus. Commissioner Brenner asks questions regarding masks and testing. Commissioner Thell asks about vaccines for certain age groups.
5. RJ Program Presentation. Stephanie Lee presets on the RJ year. COVID did have an impact. Notes that virtual participation is permitted, and that connectivity challenges have been addressed and overcome. Ninety clients in 2021. Currently there are 39 cases open to the two case workers. Ms. Lee notes that the status and petty offenses have decreased in 2021, while the misdemeanor, gross misdemeanor, and felony crime referrals have increased. Questions answered at the end of the presentation, including how the court is involved/not involved.
6. Family Friendly Jail Program Update. Kenzie Friedman presents info about the program. Ms. Friedman assists with food and parent education (in the jail and in the community through a 12 week program two times a week). Cites to the high numbers of generational jail experience and the hope to break that cycle. Has identified support groups for the children. Stephanie Upton from the jail provides an update as well.
7. ARPA Presentation. Mary Finnegan provides an ARPA update. Guidelines have finally come down. Counties have a great deal of flexibility for spending with the rules. All of the money needs to be allocated by 2024. The first \$10 million of ARPA funds is now considered "lost revenue" and can be placed in to the general fund. Mary notes where some of the funds have already been dedicated, which at this time is \$1.3 million. Approximately \$5.7 million is left. Ms. Finnegan lists what it can and cannot be used on.
8. New Business
 - A. COORDINATOR/HR/PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
 1. Building Committee update (PM budget). Dennis Genereau provides update. Not much to report as we are not even one month in to the year. 70% (\$605K) staffing and 27% (\$300K) buildings.
 2. Discuss County Board Guidelines. Mr. Genereau asks the Board for direction regarding whether the policy committee should be bringing proposed guidelines to the Board.
 3. Employee reviews update. Mr. Genereau will be working this with DH's and commissioners this month to schedule reviews for March and April.
 4. Strategic plan update. Genereau reports that the management team agreed that we should work to bring a proposal to the Board for a half day strategic planning session in March.
 5. Discuss Public Meeting process. Recommendation is for the process to be vetted with the policy committee. Take a look at distinguishing public hearings from public meetings.

6. Discuss March COW meeting. Mr. Genereau requests the Committee consider canceling the meeting as it is the day after the February 28th regular meeting.
7. Approve 2021 Management Team Annual Report. Pete Gould provides annual management team report.
- B. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
 1. Transportation audio and video upgrade. Mr. Gould discusses some of the solutions available to upgrade the current facility for meeting room. A discussion was had regarding a number of considerations for why the improvements should or should not be made. COW asks that a proposal be brought to the next building committee meeting.
- C. TRANSPORTATION
 1. Transportation update. JinYeene Neumann provides an update by commissioner district. Update is provided on the HWY 210 and CASH 61 intersection. Proposal is for the county and the district to share the additional costs. That project will be done in 2023. It will be let in June of 2022. Discussion of the supertruck that had a cab fire and attempt to recoup funds.
9. Other Business
 - A. Department Updates.
 - B. Reschedule/cancel the March 1st Committee of the Whole meeting due to County Board meeting scheduled for February 28th. Commissioners decide to cancel the March 1st meeting. The next regular COW meeting will be in April.
 - C. The next regular meeting date is scheduled for March 1, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. located at the Carlton County Transportation Building in the Board Room.
10. Adjournment. **Motion by Bodie, second by Brenner. Approved.**